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BILLION INCREASE IN REVENUE IS ASKED

Hearing on Application For Higher Rates For Railroads Opened.

Washington, May 24.—Representatives of every interest concerned in the operation of the country's railway system as well as the public were here today for the opening of the hearing by the Interstate Commerce Commission on applications for increased freight rates.

The road owners have claimed that in order to meet the 6 per cent return on their properties guaranteed by the recently enacted transportation act it will be necessary to increase the earnings of all the roads by \$1,017,000,000. To provide this sum the carriers have recommended that rates in the Eastern group of roads be increased 30.4 per cent, those in the South 30.9 and those in the Western group 23.9 per cent.

Method of fixing the valuation of the railroad properties on which the Government guarantee will be based will be one of the questions threshed out at the hearings. All interested parties will be given an opportunity to present their claims both as to the proposed increases in rates and the valuation problem.

Howard Elliott, chairman of the subcommittee of the general rate committee of the Association of Railway Executives, was called to open the case for the carriers.

Mr. Elliott pointed out that in the Eastern territory railroads for the year ending October 31 returned on property investments "less than one-fifth of 1 per cent." In the Southern territory he said, the returns were less than three-fourths of 1 per cent, and in the Western territory slightly more than 2 per cent. For the country as a whole the return was said to have been slightly more than 1 per cent.

Under the conditions of private ownership and operations of railroads, "with governmental regulation, protection and encouragement," Mr. Elliott said, "the railroads must obtain earnings enough to sustain them in competition with other forms of industry into which people put their time, brains, energy and money."

Under the new transportation act, he said, the two pressing questions now under consideration by the Interstate Commerce Commission and the newly created labor board are the requests for wage increases exceeding \$1,000,000,000 a year and an additional \$1,700,000,000 needed by the railroads to meet "the present basis of wages, costs, interest and aments."

Improvements Necessary.

Mr. Elliott declared that New England and that section of the country embracing Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Michigan were in great need of improved transportation facilities. Other sections, notably the great region south of the Ohio and east of the Mississippi, require "large additions" to keep pace with the growth of population and industry.

"Now there is congestion and difficulty everywhere," said Mr. Elliott. "Fuel, building materials and raw materials for manufacture are tied up and industry is threatened and the sluggish movement of grain and food of all kinds makes the feeding of our people more difficult and more costly."

Mr. Elliott declared that the railroad operators were just as desirous of obtaining a fair adjustment of wages for their 2,000,000 or more men as they were to receive the increased revenues. He said: "There is man-power, brain-power, courage, common sense and vision enough in the country, to succeed if all will pull together, work long and hard and eliminate selfishness, waste and extravagance."

In justification of the railroads' position he said that the price of transportation had not increased nearly so much as the cost of production. Expenses had gone up at least 100 per cent while revenues had increased less than 40 per cent. He referred to conditions in European countries where, he said, freight rates had been raised as follows: England, 71 per cent; France, 140 per cent; Belgium, 100 per cent; Italy 40 to 100

per cent; Holland, 70 to 140 per cent; Sweden, 200 per cent; Norway 150 per cent.

"The new transportation act," said Mr. Elliott, "in fixing the rate of return at 5 1/2 and 6 per cent for a two-year period might have been sufficient in the past, but is wholly inadequate to meet the present situation. The cost of new capital in the United States today, as is well known, is in excess of 7 per cent."

To Exchange Equipment.

Washington, May 24.—Thirty local committees located at all the principal rail "gateways" were at work today surveying their individual freight problems with a view to recommending to the Interstate Commerce Commission a policy to be followed in the future relating to embargoes.

In the meantime the general exchange of equipment to commence tomorrow is expected to ease the congestion of the roads to a certain extent. Railroad officials, however, are of the opinion that weeks of co-operation between the commission, the roads and shippers would be necessary to bring about normal conditions.

BACK FROM GRASSY

Dr. J. R. Pirtle, John T. Moore, J. H. "Old Timer" Glenn and W. S. Tinsley, returned Tuesday from the regions of Grassy, where they had spent a week in fishing and otherwise enjoying a week's outing, which has been an annual occurrence with three of this quartette for ten years, without a miss. Others have been members of the club, but have dropped out through death, removal from the community, and strange to relate and scarcely believable, Ed Barraas, who was a member in good standing, was too busy farming to make the trip just finished, missed the annual event for the first time in a half score years.

Jim Brookens, a cook of considerable merit, who holds the job of chief chef at a hotel in Trenton, in the Mountains of Wolfe County, came home and donned the spangles of fish-fryer, brewer of coffee, the aroma of which may be scented two bends up the river, besides a lot of other things he finds time and means of preparing for a bunch of hungry fellows who fish for pleasure, and profit physically, thereby. Jim has missed only one of these excursions in 10 years.

The party had a successful outing, having an abundance of the best of fish and "odds" of frog legs. Aside from the absence of familiar faces always seen in the early morning delving into mother earth for bait for the day's angling, the trip was immensely enjoyed by those fortunate enough to be permitted to indulge in this last of record.

AMBROSE—MOORE.

Miss Iva Ambrose of Taffy, and Mr. Charles Moore, of Louisville, were married May 10, at the Methodist Temple, Louisville, the Rev. E. F. Goodson performing the ceremony.

Miss Ambrose is one of Ohio County's successful school teachers, who for the past two years has been teaching in Blackwell, Oklahoma. Mr. Moore holds a responsible position with the B. F. Avery Co., at Louisville. Mr. and Mrs. Moore were here last week-end, visiting Mrs. Moore's sister, Mrs. J. B. Westerfield, near town. They left Monday for a short visit with Mr. Moore's parents, after which they will make their home in Louisville.

A BEE STORY.

A very daring and successful attempt to hive a colony of bees happened last Tuesday, when the sons of Mr. G. P. Jones, of the Washington community, found a swarm on a limb in the woods. They proceeded to cut the limb off, carried it home and hived them with success. If you have bees and are afraid to hive them send for Mr. Jones' boys.

SUGAR UP ANOTHER CENT.

New York, May 24.—The American Sugar Refining Company today advanced the price of sugar 1 cent to 22 1/2 cents, marking the third advance of its kind within a week.

"The necessity for this advance arises by reason of the increasing cost to the company of raw sugar," read a statement issued by the company.

MANDATE OVER ARMENIA URGED

Wilson Asks Congress For Authority To Accept Tender Of Allies

By James R. Nourse.

Washington, May 24.—President Wilson today sent a message to Congress asking authority to accept on behalf of the United States the mandate over Armenia which was tendered by the allied premiers in their conference at San Remo.

The President asked for the mandate on the grounds of duty to the Armenian people to assist them in their struggles toward independence. He declared his belief that his actions would be supported by the great majority of the American people.

Acknowledging that his request was laid before Congress "at a very critical time," the President asserted that he made the suggestion in the confidence that he was "speaking in the spirit and in accordance with the wishes of the greatest of the Christian peoples." He appealed to Congress not to "turn away" from the invitation so "formally and solemnly extended to us by the council at San Remo," but on the other hand to permit him to take over the mandate for the protection of the Armenians against the Turks.

Gets Chilly Reception.

Notwithstanding the confidence with which the President expressed his belief that the request for the mandate would be acceptable to the people of the United States, his message met with a chilly reception in both the Senate and House. It was read in each house just before adjournment and was referred to the Foreign Affairs and Foreign Relations Committees without comment.

In the same message the President notified Congress that he had decided to accept the invitation tendered him by the allied premiers to act as arbitrator in fixing the boundary between Turkey and Armenia. This office the President may accept without authorization of Congress.

Criticism of the President's request was immediately forthcoming. From every quarter and from most of the leading members of the two houses came expressions to the effect that Congress would give little heed to the President's suggestion.

In several of the executive departments of the government, views were privately expressed that Congress would not grant permission for acceptance of the mandate. An official high in the diplomatic service of the United States boldly stated that the request for a mandate has not a "Chinaman's chance."

Lodge Withholds Comment.

Senator Lodge, Republican leader in the Senate, declined to make any comment, but pointed to the statement in General Harbord's report to the effect that the cost of the United States for the first five years would exceed \$736,000,000.

Other senators were frank in saying that acceptance of the mandate meant merely the intrusion of the United States into the policing of Armenia after that country has been stripped of every valuable natural resource by Great Britain and France.

CROMWELL MASONS HAVE BIG SESSION

Cromwell Lodge, No. 692, F. & A. M., held a special session Tuesday night, when more Masons were brought together in a lodge meeting, perhaps, than have attended a like gathering in Ohio county in quite a long time. At 6:30 a sumptuous feast was served, partaken of by a number of wives and daughters of members of the fraternity, and also by quite a number of invited guests other than Masons.

Past Grand Master, T. J. Adams, who is superintendent of the Kentucky Masonic Widows' and Orphans' Home, was present and occupied the Master's Station in conferring the Master's degree on two candidates after the supper was served.

\$279,000,000 PENSION BILL APPROVED IN SENATE

Washington, May 25.—After less than three minutes' consideration the Senate late today passed the annual pension bill, carrying \$279,000,000

WEED PLANTERS ORGANIZE POOL

Kentuckians And Tennesseans Will Seek To Regulate Prices

Hopkinsville, Ky., May 26.—The Tobacco Planters' Association, an organization of farmers designed to regulate the price of tobacco by pooling their crops and holding them for agreed prices, was organized this afternoon at a meeting held at Guthrie, Ky. About 25 delegates, representing counties in the dark tobacco belt of Kentucky and Tennessee, were present and much enthusiasm was shown. The farmers have been dissatisfied with the greatly reduced prices which have been paid for tobacco for some time, and hope to improve these conditions through their organization.

A charter was secured some days ago, the capital stock a nominal sum. Officers were elected as follows: President, J. W. Usher, Mayfield, Ky. vice president, W. W. Scott, Pleasant View, Tenn.; secretary, J. W. Stovall, Adairville, Ky.; treasurer, B. M. Traub, Pembroke; general manager, Felix G. Ewing, Glenraven, Tenn. Guthrie, Kentucky will be the home office. Farmers will be asked to pledge their crops for a three-year period. The tobacco will be offered in the loose state and if prices are not satisfactory it will be prized. County organizations are to be perfected and a campaign for pledges actively waged.

KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS MEMORIAL SERVICES

The local Lodge, Knights of Pythias, will hold its annual decoration and memorial services Sunday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock, at Oakwood Cemetery. Talks will be made by members of the order after which the graves of the departed Knights will be appropriately decorated.

Every member of the order is urged to be at the Lodge Hall promptly at 2 o'clock, that the membership may go in a body to the Cemetery.

J. H. THOMAS QUITS THE KENTUCKY REPUBLICAN

Mr. John H. Thomas, who was with this paper about a year ago, but later with the Owensboro Messenger and recently with the Kentucky Republican, in an editorial capacity, has been appointed by Auditor Craig to the position of State fire inspector and assigned to duty in Louisville.

The acceptance by Mr. Thomas of his present position takes him out of the newspaper field, a line of work in our judgment, wherein he most excels and is best fitted to labor. He is the possessor of a style that made the products of his pen stand out different from the work of others. The close or perhaps the casual observer, could read articles upon the same subject, by a dozen different writers, Thomas included, and his article could readily be detected from the other eleven. This was wholly due to his peculiar style and method. To be able to write interestingly and at the same time wholly different from the common herd or flock, is an asset and acquirement, the value of which can not be figured in mere dollars and cents. A bit more money with fewer long hours of tedious, brain-racking toil is a temptation too great for mere man. Thomas, being a man, in some respects at least, not different from the rest of us, tumbled. We regret to see Mr. Thomas leave the galaxy of quill-drivers but must congratulate him upon his new work, in that it is more remunerative, requires a great deal less of extremely hard work and especially that his activities are so circumscribed as to leave him at home with his family, who reside in Louisville, where he is to work.

THOMAS JEFFRIES DEAD

Mr. Thomas Jeffries an aged and respected citizen, died at his home at Bell's Run, Sunday night of cancer of the stomach. Burial of the remains took place Monday, at Bell's Run, where funeral services were conducted by the Rev. Lashbrook, of Owensboro.

Mr. Jeffries was a veteran of the civil war, having fought in the interest of the Southern Confederacy, during that conflict. He is survived by his widow and two sons.

MRS. H. E. MISCHKE ENTERTAINS CLUB

Mrs. H. E. Mischke entertained the Ladies' Social Club at her home Wednesday afternoon in a most delightful manner. A number of games of progressive rook were played, after which delicious refreshments were served.

Besides the members the following guests were present: Mrs. Bernes Frost, of Moorman, Mesdames Darrell Sullenger, Otto C. Martin, Sidney Williams, Misses Margaret and Mary Marks.

BELL—LEWIS

Mr. Ben B. Lewis, of Owensboro, and Miss Orpha J. Bell, of Matanzas, both 24 years of age, were united in matrimony at the home of the bride's aunt, Mrs. S. A. Bratcher and Mr. Bratcher, in this city Thursday evening. Rev. Russell Walker performed the ceremony.

The bride is the daughter of Mrs. W. A. Brown, of Matanzas, and is popular with all who know her. They will reside in Owensboro.

LOUISVILLE MARKETS

Cattle—Trade weak in heavy steer division, with no improvement in the call for good weighty cattle. Fairly good clearance noted.

Quotations: Prime heavy steers \$12@12.50; heavy shipping steers \$11@12; medium steers \$10@11; light steers \$9.50@10; fat heifers \$8@13; fat cows \$8@11; medium cows \$6.50@8; cutters \$5.50@6.50; canners \$4.75@5; bulls \$7@9.25; feeders \$9@10.50; stockers \$7@9.75; choice milk cows \$9@11.50; medium \$8.50@9; common \$5@6.50.

Calves—No change in prices with an active market on top calves at \$11@11.50; medium \$7@10; common \$5@6.

Hogs—Market established early on a steady basis with an active outlet for the best hogs. Choice hogs, 225 pounds up \$13.75; 165 to 225 lbs \$14.50; 120 to 165 pounds \$13.75; pigs 90 to 120 pounds \$12; 90 pounds down \$10.50; throwouts \$10.25 down.

Sheep and Lambs—A broad outlet is noted for the best spring lambs at steady prices. Best lambs \$18 down; seconds \$14; culls \$10@12. Best clipped sheep \$9 wool sheep \$1 higher; bucks \$7 down; best fall lambs quotable at \$14@15. Not enough choice spring lambs coming to fill the needs of the trade.

PRODUCE

Local produce dealers quote buying prices as follows, net to shipper, the shipper paying freight and drayage charges:

EGGS—Candled 36@37c dozen. BUTTER—Country 30@32 c lb. POULTRY—Hens 27@29c lb.; spring chickens (boilers) 60@70c lb.; old roosters 14@17c lb.; ducks 22@25c lb.; turkeys 35c lb.; geese 15@18c lb.; guineas 35c apiece.

FUNERAL SERVICES FOR F. M. CROWDER

The funeral services for F. M. Crowder, who died some months ago, and delayed at the time of his burial on account of the extreme bad weather and absence of relatives, will be conducted by the Rev. Willis at Mt. Pleasant church, near the former home of the deceased, Sunday the 30th., at 11 o'clock, A. M.

Decoration services will also be held on the same date at the burying grounds adjacent to Mt. Pleasant. Mr. Crowder was an ex-union soldier and his grave with the other heroes of 61-65 are to be decorated.

MARRIAGE LICENSES.

Manley Boyce Maddox, McHenry, age 23, to Myrl E. Kimmel, Ceralvo, age 19.

Lonnie Smith, Baizetown, age 28 to Tiney Matthews, Centertown, age 21.

James A. Crowder, McHenry, age 21, to Mamie T. Ashby, McHenry, age 19.

Ben D. Lewis, Owensboro, age 24, to Orpha Bell, Centertown, age 24. Lafa Blair, Fordsville, R. 2, age 19, to Tanda Hale, Fordsville, R. 2, age 18.

LOOK OUT GIRLS!

Mr. Arthur Leach has purchased a new Briscoe touring car. Who will be the lucky one?

CARRANZA ASLEEP IN HUT WHEN SLAIN

Dead President's Chief Of Staff Tells Of Traitors' Murderous Attack.

Mexico City, May 23.—A dispatch received from Juan Barragan, Chief of Staff of President Carranza, says Carranza met his death at the hands of Gen. Rodolfo Herrero's forces at Tlaxcalantongo. The dispatch follows:

"Villa Juarez, State of Puebla, May 22.

"To Gen. Alvaro Obregon. "Referring to your telegram of this date, Herrero joined the column at Patia, professing loyalty. Arriving at Tlaxcalantongo, Herrero offered hospitality to Carranza, placing sentinels who knew the terrain. At 4 o'clock in the morning his men, abusing the confidence imposed in them, surrounded the shelter where Carranza was sleeping, firing their rifles furiously into the hut. Everyone offered resistance, although with the natural demoralization caused by the unexpected attack.

"Gen. Francisco Murguia fought valiantly in the obscurity (semi-darkness), repulsing the traitors, who surprised the defenders when they were leaving their shelters to attack the enemy.

"The unexpectedness of the attack enabled us to clear our military honor. The defense was general to such extent that the attackers were forced to take sixty prisoners, among them Mario Mendez, Paulino Fontes, Gil Garias, Gen. Heliodoro Perez, Colonel Che Gomez, General Villala and Carranza's military aid.

"Mendez formerly was director of the National Telegraph Lines, Fontes was former Director of National Railways, and Senor Garias was Carranza's private secretary."

"Our conscience is clear. Our grief for the death of the President is inconsolable. We are satisfied that we did not abandon him for one moment.

"The few men wounded and dead is explained by the fact that the attackers planned their crime, knowing the place where the President, who had placed his confidence in Herrero, was sleeping. The loyalty and courage of the President's followers were useless against the treason of those criminals."

The message was signed by Barragan and Mariano Gonzales, Frederico Montes, Francisco De H. Maria and others.

The flags on the American Embassy and all the other embassies and legations were placed at half-mast when the news of the assassination of President Carranza arrived.

OHIO COUNTIAN RECEIVES HONOR

At the 58th annual encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic Department of Kentucky, held in Louisville this week, Rev. H. C. Truman, of Fordsville, was elected Senior vice commander. Rev. Truman ranks second in the Kentucky organization of those who wore the blue in the dark days of 61 to 65.

Rev. Truman is a devoted member of the G. A. R., worthy and amply qualified to fill the position at the pinnacle of the Society fast obeying the command to fall out, to answer the roll call no more.

PARENT-TEACHER ASSOCIATION ENTERTAIN TODAY

The local Parent-Teacher Association will hold an interesting meeting at the college Auditorium, this afternoon at 2 o'clock. An address will be delivered by Prof. Graham. Those who can possibly do so should attend this meeting as the address is certain to be pleasing and instructive as well, besides other attractive features.

Refreshments will be served, the proceeds from which are to be applied to the benefit of the playground.

SPENT A DAY FISHING

Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Barnett, their daughter, Helen, and son, Bobbie, and Miss Dewey Johnson, spent Tuesday on the river fishing. Their noonday lunch was spread on the ground. While only a few suckers were strung a pleasant time was reported by the snarers of the finny tribe.